

Old World News Flashed by Cable to The Times-Dispatch

WOMAN SUFFRAGE IS LIKELY TO WIN

If Defeated in Great Britain Pankhurst Crowd Will Be Blamed.

DENOUNCED BY LABOR LEADER

Members of Parliament Protest Against Militant Methods.

BY ED L. KOON.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] London, January 6.—The women of Great Britain were never nearer the vote than now. A careful survey of the House of Commons shows that, if a vote were taken to-day on the general manhood suffrage bill with an amendment including women, the measure very likely would pass. The bill, however, will not be introduced until the next session of Parliament, which convenes on February 14, and much may happen between now and then.

If women suffrage should be defeated, the "Pankhurst crowd" will be blamed. If it goes through, it will be in spite of the hostile tactics which they have revived this winter and which, although previously approved by many necessary in order to call public attention to the "cause," are now condemned by men and women alike. Many believe that the "militant methods" may even prove fatal to suffrage.

Lloyd-George, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, has accused the Pankhursts and their militant followers of playing—either intentionally or unintentionally—into the hands of the Tories. He and his colleagues have promised women an opportunity to vote in the suffrage, enfranchising 6,000,000 women of all classes. The Pankhursts, however, persist in doubting the Cabinet's good faith and are pressing for the passage of the so-called conciliation franchise only, placing the vote in the hands of about 1,000,000 women who are properly owners. It is obvious that the voting strength of women admitted under the conciliation bill would be non-liberal.

The tide of public opinion turned against the militants when recently they howled down the prime minister in the City Temple. Asquith cannot be regarded as an enemy of the woman's suffrage movement, though he admits that a charge so great as that of giving women the right to vote without being educated, abused and confused, is a promise, however, in explicit terms, that women shall have an opportunity of so amending the manhood suffrage bill next year as to provide for suffrage.

Though they humiliated the prime minister, the militants were willing to listen to Ramsey MacDonald, the labor leader, for organization. Labor in Great Britain goes "the whole hog" so far as the vote is concerned. To their uttermost surprise he denounced their demonstration as "abusive, degrading and disgusting."

"For my own part," he said, "I feel that the cause had come to this. I would go into the lobby against it every time."

Shortly afterwards Sir Edward Grey, the foreign secretary, wrote to the Earl of Lytton: "The present situation is that an amendment of 1,000,000 women under the constitution bill may be exchanged for a good prospect of the enfranchisement of 6,000,000 women by an amendment of the government bill, if necessary, by a Cabinet majority."

"These of us who are united with regard to such an amendment have intended, as far as may be in our power, to advocate the cause of women's suffrage on these lines actively and publicly before the introduction of the (manhood suffrage) bill next year. Some of us have already made engagements for the future. But acts of violence, such as accompanied the demonstration in Parliament, culminating in the disorderly scenes at a meeting for a charitable purpose addressed by the prime minister, have

Comments on Russian Treaty



Paul N. Milukoff, leader of the opposition in the Russian Duma, who comments on the abrogation of the treaty of 1892. He says: "The foremost immediate concern of the Russian people is that nobody outside of Russia should be allowed to realize that a serious check has arisen, due to the Jewish question. The danger of the future is that the issue is left wide open, and if parliamentarism agitate the matter, it would then react unfavorably on the movement for Jewish equality within Russia."

done immense mischief to the cause. "As a matter of fact, we cannot advocate it successfully when conduct of this sort alienates numbers of people who would otherwise be disposed to give it a fair and favorable hearing. Nor can it be expected that people like myself, who are colleagues and friends of the prime minister, can give active support to any movement which is the object of such a demonstration of public opinion as occurred at the City Temple."

Mrs. Millicent Fawcett, president of the National Union of Women Suffrage Societies, in a letter to Lloyd-George, dissociated the national body from the militant group, known as the "Women's Political and Social Union," and represented by the Pankhursts. She entreats Lloyd-George, Sir Edward Grey and other suffrage advocates in the Cabinet not to turn against the movement on account of the violent acts of the militants, which she "repudiates, deplores and condemns."

Christabel Pankhurst was and is impatient. Answering Mrs. Fawcett, she declared: "The responsibility of suffragist ministers is not fulfilled by advocating a mere amendment to a manhood suffrage bill, and we regard their present attempt to skirt this responsibility in this fashion as being in itself an unfriendly act. Questions and interruptions at meetings are a well recognized symptom of political discontent. Such methods are resorted to even by men, who possess the unrepresented women these methods are essential for the pursuit of their political campaign."

The spirit of the militants is illustrated by these remarks made by them in the Bow Street Police Court when they were fined and imprisoned:

"Unfortunately I did not break the window; I am only an amateur."

"I have been called out of my home to ring the danger bell of England."

"For twenty-eight years I have been a minister's wife. I have the blood of martyrs in my veins."

"I have put my hand writing on the walls of Parliament."

"The police obstructed me in the execution of my duty."

"I wish to protest against the number of swollen heads in Parliament."

"What will be the effect upon members of the House of Commons if the militants persist in pursuing the policy of violence? Will women get the vote?"

Additional details about the Russian petitioners unearthed in German East: show that the bones of several of them are from the same place as long as those of the dipodomys presented to the Berlin Museum by Andrew Carnegie, and which was the largest skeleton hitherto known.

The ribs of one of the African saurians are 2.2 feet long, while the greatest length of the Chinese dipodomys is 0.1 feet. The shoulder bones of the African are 0.7 feet, against 0.4 feet for the American. The upper joint of the foreleg of the African animal measures 0.9 feet, while the American saurian is only 0.1 feet.

It appears that the German scientists have hitherto been able to obtain the parts of the complete skeletons, but their exploration of the deposit is still far from completed.

The indignation caused in England by the fact that the English spy, Max Schütz, a born German, was sentenced by the German Supreme Court to a long term in the penitentiary, whereas the two English officers, French and Brandon, were sentenced a year ago only to detention in a fortress for spying, has been received with some surprise in the German press.

It is held here that Schütz's offense was of a much graver character because he bribed German volunteers to commit treason by revealing information to him, which was highly important for the welfare of the empire to keep secret, while the two officers merely traveled about from place to place and noted their own observations. Moreover, these latter were carrying out, as was assumed, the orders of their superior officers, whereas Schütz was a hired spy. This early reputation of espionage in Germany by England has made a bad impression in political circles, and in some quarters it is demanded that a law be passed providing for more rigorous punishment for spying.

The frequent occurrence of earthquakes in South Germany and Switzerland for a month or more is causing much discussion among German scientists. They hold that these almost daily shocks have a common origin, which they assumed to be structural displacements far beneath the surface of the earth, similar to what must have accompanied the upheaval of the Alps.

The second elections in the little principality of Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt, recently held, leave the Socialists in possession of nine seats in the Landtag out of a total of sixteen. Four National Liberals and three Conservatives hold the other seven seats. In the last Landtag the Socialists had six seats.

WORKING CLASSES WELL CARED FOR

"Social Laws" of Germany Accomplish Great Things for People.

PROVIDE FOR INSURANCE

New "Reichstag" for Term of Five Years Will Be Elected Friday.

BY KARL HEINRICH VON WIEGAND. [Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] Berlin, January 6.—Interesting statistical figures have just been issued by the German government which indicate that Germany takes better care of her working classes than any other nation. In discussing this report, Professor Hans G. L. Dellbrück, the famous German historian, remarked to me "the German government in enacting the system of Social Laws, accomplished more for its people than any parliamentary government has done so far."

The so-called "Social Laws," the scope of which is extended almost every year, as experience and results make it necessary or advisable, embody the most elaborate and extensive system of insurance for working men and women of any country.

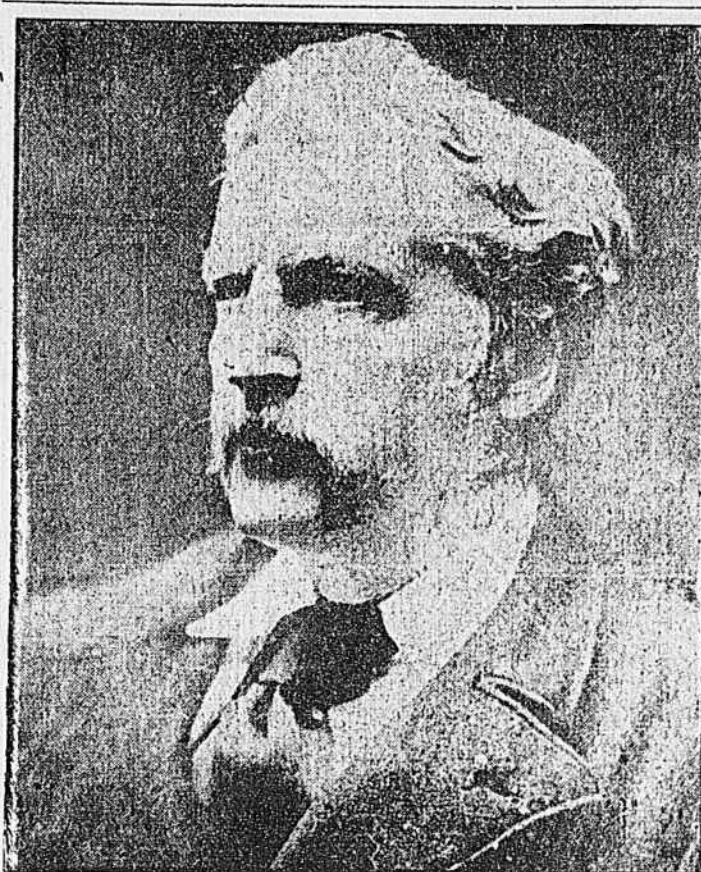
There is insurance against sickness, accident, invalidism, old age pensions, death benefits and sums paid to working women, before and after confinement, together with care and medical attendance. Physicians and medicine are provided for the sick, and institutions are maintained for incurable diseases. All of these, however, are not government insurance.

Two or three classes of the insurance are compulsory, according to the vocation of the working man or woman. The cost of the insurance and the system of administration, is divided between the insured, the employer, and in the invalidism and old age class, also by the government. Even a man who earns from \$2 to \$3 a week, and your servant girl who receives a monthly wage of \$5 to \$7, must pay 21 cents a week insurance against sickness, of which the employer must pay half. If you have a scrubwoman come in once a week to clean the floor of your office, you must occasionally contribute to her insurance book. While the benefits paid in each individual instance are small when compared to American wages and money, the aggregate, however, reaches a tremendous figure.

According to the figures just issued for last year, the receipts of the "Health" Department alone aggregated almost \$50,000,000. The expenditures were approximately \$32,000,000. Of this amount approximately \$12,000,000 was paid out in sick benefits, \$15,000,000 for physicians' fees and medical attendance, \$11,000,000 for medical supplies and nursing, \$1,500,000 for the assistance, support and care of working women before and after child birth, \$1,700,000 in helping to bear burial expenses and in death benefits, approximately \$10,500,000 for the support of institutions for the treatment of tuberculosis, cancer, etc., and about \$50,000 in caring for convalescents in hospitals and at home. The administrative cost of this particular branch of the insurance system amounted to \$5,000,000.

There were 23,188 sick insurance off-

DUKE'S OPERA ACCEPTED



The Duke of Argyll, whose opera has been accepted by Oscar Hammerstein and musical composition among his accomplishments.

cers in Germany during the year, a slight increase over the previous year, with a total membership of 15,069,375. There were 5,187,000 cases of sickness, with a total of 104,768,104 "sick days."

The invalid insurance and old age pensions are the development and most recent addition to the other classes. These are strictly under government administration, and the cost is divided between the insured, the employer and the government, upon a sort of "co-operative" basis. While the "sick" and "accident" insurance is to some extent under private administration, the government co-operates, making the compulsory, fixing the cost, compelling the employers to bear their share, and supervising them almost as if they actually were government institutions.

Over \$40,000,000 was paid out last year in old age pensions and invalid benefits. Of this sum, the government contributed a little over \$12,000,000. In this class 15,144,300 people are insured, of which 4,737,300 are women. The scope of the government insurance system has been greatly extended by the passage last month in the Reichstag, of a law abolishing the private insurance systems of street railway companies, and similar corporations, all of which is taken over by the government.

Next Friday Germany will elect a new "Reichstag" or Parliament for a term of five years. The last Reichstag, like the average American Congress, was disappointing to everybody concerned, government and people alike. In the past five years of its existence it did virtually nothing "up to expectations."

Soon after the elections in 1907 vast throngs of people paraded in front of the Emperor's palace, Unter den Linden, and gave joyous demonstrations over the then newly elected Reichstag, which so much was to be expected. When it adjourned on December 6 it died a death no one regretted, least of all the people.

What stands out more than anything else in the present campaign is the fact that the Conservative coalition, the majority with which Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg ruled, but which in the last few days of the Reichstag virtually repudiated him for his settlement of the Moroccan trouble, is fighting on the defensive against the progressive forces headed by the Social-Democratic party, which have fifty-two members in the last Reichstag. The struggle between the Conservatives and the Radicals, as the Socialists are called, is a struggle of caste greater voice for the people in the government of Germany.

The past week ended with a vigorous attack by the Socialists upon the "workmen's" insurance system in Germany, the most comprehensive system of insurance against illness, accident, invalidism and old age pensions possessed by any country in the world. The law providing for the system was passed over the opposition of the Socialists in the Reichstag, who declared the laws were inadequate.

The Socialists show that the receipts of the three classes of insurance—sickness, accident, invalidism, and old age—for the period from 1885 to 1909 aggregated approximately \$2,600,000,000, of which, it is claimed, the insured workmen and women paid over one billion dollars. The government contributed \$125,000,000, the employers, income from interest and other source, the rest. They declare that the assessments, which in America would be considered very low indeed, are too heavy for the benefits received by the insured.

The Socialists look upon insurance, which, in some vocations, is compulsory, as a form of "taxation," regardless of the fact that a man earning \$1.25 a day receives one-half of his wages for a certain period of illness, for which his weekly assessment is only 26 cents.

It is estimated that the Socialists will have around eighty out of 397 members in the next Reichstag, which would make them the second strongest party in the national Parliament.

GREAT PROGRESS IN ROMAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PARK (By Henry Wood, Rome Correspondent of the United Press.)

Rome, January 6.—So much progress has already been made in Rome's new "Parco Archeologico," or Archaeological Park, that it is now certain that it will be dedicated and opened to the public early during the coming spring. With its com-

pletion Rome will have a new attraction to offer the hundreds of thousands of tourists who flock annually to the Eternal City, and which, it will be an attraction with which no other city can hope to compete.

The construction of the new Archaeological Park is being carried on under the direction of a royal commission, of which the head is Prof. Lanciani, the best known archaeologist in the world. At the present time merely an initial appropriation of \$1,000,000 is being expended for the acquiring of the ground and its inclosure. Other appropriations will be made later by Parliament for still further excavations, for the removal of ancient ruins from the park, and for making it without exception the largest and most valuable as well as the most interesting archaeological tract in the world.

The ground embraces 800 acres and extends from the very heart of Rome into the Campagna. Within these acres are found the sites and the ruins of the greater portion of all that is left of ancient Rome.

The park, beginning in the very center of the city at the base of the Capitoline Hill, includes the entire length of the old Sacred Way which led up to the summit of the hill, the old Aurelian Wall, and the Forum, the Palace of the Caesars on the Palatine Hill, the Baths of Trajan, the Arch of Titus, the Colosseum, the Baths of Trajan, the northern and western slopes of the Colian Hill, the eastern and southern slopes of the lesser Aventine Hill, the valley between these two hills from the Circus Maximus to the old Aurelian Wall, and an out-into the Campagna, taking in a portion of the old Appian Way, and including the ruins of Caracalla, the largest ruins in the world with the exception of those of the Colosseum.

This great tract has now been inclosed with a high fence of iron and masonry, and workers are being worked inside in the laying out of broad boulevards, pathways, the planting of classic groves and the maintaining of the old ruins of Rome in all of their grandeur.

In addition to the ruins already unearthed within the area of the park, other excavations will be made as far as possible, and the entire area will be made smaller, but none the less finer, than the present park, and the work of excavating the park, and the work of excavating the ruins, will be taken up during the coming summer. These ruins will then be allowed to remain just as they are when they are uncovered, together with what works of art may be found inside in the past, having always of necessity been transported to the museums. This is expected also to contribute largely to the atmosphere of the park, which it is hoped will retain, and to add further to making the tract the most valuable and the most interesting archaeological attraction in the entire world.

The blowing up of "La Liberté," in the harbor of Toulon, on September 25, the officer attributed to this cause; likewise the "Mairie" disaster, resulting over the finding of the special commission, which investigated the latter cause, without a word.

Furthermore, General Chapel more than ten years ago worked out a table, and arrived at meteorological data, and the dates of the various calamities, caused by the so-called spontaneous combustion. These dates are: January 2, 8, 18; February 15; April 3; July 23, 25, 31; August 7 to 15; 23 to 30; September 3, 15, 16, 20, 21, 22, 25; October 8; November 13, 14, 25 to 28; December 1, 6, 13.

Jack tars may well rest on pins and needles on these dates. At these periods of the year, according to General Chapel, atmospheric conditions are more than usually favorable to the explosion, without seeming cause, of powder magazines. Aviators should also take heed; their gasoline tanks are liable to take fire without apparent reason. Powder mills are prone to blow up.

Cause? Too much atmospheric electricity.

As far back as 1836 the general formulated this rule: "When an explosion occurs without reason, at any given point, either storms are actually prevalent or storms are approaching said given point."

For instance, at Toulon, September 20, aboard the battleship "Gloire," a shell exploded killing several people; September 22, at Toulon, a shell exploded aboard the "Marsellaise"; September 25, at Toulon, "La Liberté" blew up; "spontaneous combustion" seemingly was the cause of all these accidents. Each of these dates correspond with the general's chart, and the fact that the period from September 20 to 26 was characterized by a particularly low barometre and abnormal electrical disturbances, shows that his rule held good.

In Italy the same storm did much damage, buildings were destroyed, etc. And on September 21, at Montecarlo, a powder mill blew up with loss of life. The same storm was felt along the British coast and on September 20, in the Rochefort Harbor, a torpedo blew up "spontaneously."

DISTRESS CAUSED BY DAME FASHION

Everywhere That Dress Goods Are Made Suffering Is Intense.

INDUSTRY FACES CRISIS

Electricity in Air Blamed for Explosions on Battleships.

BY WILLIAM PHILIP SIMS.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] Paris, January 6.—Fifty thousand men and women in and about Roubaix are cold and hungry; most of them eat, but they have not enough; some are utterly destitute. Dame fashion, hobbie skirting, blindly copied by women everywhere, is to blame. And Roubaix is not the only district, everywhere that dressgoods are made the situation is more or less the same.

During the past year the loss in wages of the poor at Roubaix—the only locality concerning which statistics are available—amounted to no less than \$4,000,000.

The hardest part of the winter is yet to come. Eggs, 72 cents a dozen; meat, 40 to 50 cents a pound; milk, 10 cents a quart; no vegetables available; the cheapest coal, \$10 a ton! These are the things that the 20,000 idle at Roubaix and their children are facing now. Certainly, poorly fed on the cheapest foods, and with not enough of what there is, some of these will not survive the winter; puny babies, the non-toe-strong or the otherwise feeble, will go down and out, martyrs, along with the fair bearing animals and the gaily-painted birds, to the vanity of women.

The cause of the present trouble is simple. With the exception of yards of material used to be required for a dress, three and four yards are now ample; in some cases even less. Scores of dress factories have been forced to close or discharge most of their employees. The chairman of the textile manufacturers' association declared that the industry has reached a crisis. In addition to the hobbie skirt craze in the United States, tariff is practically prohibitive, and accordingly there are no sales to speak of in America.

The desire of women to imitate men, says the chairman, is in his opinion, the cause for the ludicrous hobbie skirt. They want to look like men, dressing in about the same amount of material as would go into one trouser leg and a vest. Of course there is a superexaggeration of the effect, women are trying themselves up that can neither walk nor move, and yet there is no economy to the wearers of the hobbie—a dress costs to-day the same as it did when skirts were full, perhaps even more.

When the hobbie skirt came in at the door of fashion, the petticoat flew out the window—or, if it did not, it was trunk up in the attic. There is no demand for the article. Women are wearing slacks, knitted bloomers instead. The women and girls (principally), who formerly made their living in petticoat factories, are also idle.

But, says the Petit Parisien, which paper sent a special correspondent to Roubaix to investigate the calamity, women have always suffered in an effort to "look pretty"; they torture themselves, so no one could expect them to be less than lovely. Many of the men and women and children are starving and out of jobs, stop working otherwise they "simply wouldn't have a thing to wear."

That electricity in the air is the principal cause of explosions aboard battleships, at power works, or gasoline tanks on aeroplanes, and the contention of General Chapel, commander of the seventeenth division, Infantry of the French army.

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